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Applicants:

Mark C. Nowell, Gary Nicholl and Jean-Yves Ouellet

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Group:

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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSFERRING

SYNCHRONOUS OPTICAL NETWORK/SYNCHRONOUS

DIGITAL HIERARCHY (SONET/SDH) FRAMES ON PARALLEL

TRANSMISSION LINKS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Signature

Elaine Leahy

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AMENDMENT

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Technology Center 2600

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 22, 2003 in the above-identified application.

Reconsideration and further examination are requested.

An extension of time to respond to the Office Action is respectfully requested. A Petition for Extension of Time and the appropriate fee are being filed concurrently with this Amendment.